

Message Text

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SUBJECT: BRAZILIAN FONMIN VISITS ASUNCION TO SIGN ITAIPU

RELATED AGREEMENTS

1. BRAZILIAN FONMIN AZEREDO DA SILVA DEPARTED ASUNCION SEPT 11 FOLLOWING A TWO-DAY VISIT DURING WHICH PREVIOUSLY NEGOTIATED AGREEMENTS RELATED TO THE JOINT PARAGUAYAN/BRAZILIAN ITAIPU HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT WERE SIGNED. DURING AZEREDO'S STAY, THE USUAL CEREMONIAL AMENITIES WERE OBSERVED. HE WAS ACCORDED INTERVIEWS WITH PRESIDENT STROESSNER AND FONMIN SAPENA AND CONFERRED DECORATIONS ON 18 PARAGUAYAN OFFICIALS (PROMPTING A SHARP EDITORIAL IN LOCAL DAILY ABC COLOR ON EXCESSIVE USE OF DECORATION AS TOOLS OF CONTEMPORARY DIPLOMACY). FOLLOWING CONVERSATIONS WITH SAPENA PASTOR, AZEREDO CONFIRMED WITHOUT DETAILS THAT THE TWO HAD DISCUSSED THE FORTHCOMING OAS MEETING ON CUBA, BUT NOTHING CONCRETE EMERGED IN REGARD TO EARLIER PRESS REPORTS THAT TOP LEVEL DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING THE POSSIBLE USE OF SOVIET TURBINES IN ITAIPU WOULD TAKE PLACE DURING THE BRAZILIAN VISIT. A FONOFF SOURCE INDICATED THAT THE SUBJECT WAS NOT RAISED IN INTERGOVERNMENTAL DISCUSSIONS. HOWEVER, THE AFTERNOON OF HIS DEPARTURE, A LOCAL PRESS STORY INDICATED THAT GENERAL

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JOSE COSTA CAVALCANTI, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE BI-

NATIONAL ITAIPU ENTITY (A BRAZILIAN NATIONAL) HAD STATED TO JOURNALISTS THAT NEITHER BRAZIL NOR PARAGUAY WOULD RAISE OBJECTIONS IN REGARD TO THE ORIGIN OF THE TURBINES. HE FURTHER STATED THAT THE TURBINES WOULD BE ORDERED LATE 1975 OR EARLY 1976, FROM THE SOURCE OFFERING THE BEST QUALITY, PRICE, AND PAYMENT TERMS "WHETHER THAT BE FROM THE SOVIET UNION OR ANY OTHER SOURCE." THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED UPON HIS DEPARTURE WITHOUT SUBSTANCE.

2. A SUMMARY OF THE ACCORDS SIGNED DURING THE VISIT IS AS FOLLOWS:

A) ITAIPU TREATY PROTOCOL COVERING LABOR REGULATIONS AND SOCIAL SECURITY;

B) EXCHANGE OF NOTES UNDER WHICH BRAZIL WILL EXTEND TO ANDE (PARAGUAYAN NATIONAL ELECTRIC POWER AGENCY) A CREDIT OF US \$50 MILLION EQUIVALENT, AS PARAGUAY'S SHARE OF THE CAPITALIZATION OF THE "ITAIPU" ENTITY.

C) AN EXCHANGE OF NOTES PROVIDING FOR TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL COLLABORATION ON PLANS FOR INTEGRATION OF PARAGUAYAN AND BRAZILIAN TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS.

3. IN ADDITION TO ITAIPU-RELATED AGREEMENTS THERE ALSO WAS AN EXCHANGE OF NOTES ESTABLISHING A CENTER OF BRAZILIAN STUDIES IN ASUNCION, TO SUPERSEDE THE BRAZILIAN CULTURAL MISSION ESTABLISHED HERE IN 1952; AND EXCHANGES OF TWO SEPARATE INSTRUMENTS DEALING WITH OPERATION OF RADIO TRANSMISSION EQUIPMENT BY PARAGUAYAN AND BRAZILIAN AIR ATTACHES FROM WITHIN THEIR RESPECTIVE EMBASSIES TO THE OTHER COUNTRY, AND RECIPROCAL LICENSING OF AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS TO OPERATE FROM WITHIN THE OTHER COUNTRY.
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